



## **NEWS RELEASE**

NORTH PLATTE VA CLINIC TO CONDUCT JOHNSON AND JOHNSON SINGLE-DOSE VACCINATION CLINIC ON MONDAY AFTERNOON FOR VETERANS, VETERAN SPOUSES, VETERAN CAREGIVERS; SOME LIMITED WALK-IN APPOINTMENTS TO BE AVAILABLE

RELEASED BY KEVIN HYNES

April 9, 2021

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

OMAHA, Neb. – The North Platte VA Community-Based Outpatient Clinic (CBOC) will conduct a Single-Dose Janssen (Johnson & Johnson) COVID-19 Vaccination Clinic for area Veterans, Veteran Spouses and Veteran Caregivers on Monday, April 12, between 12:30 and 3 p.m. This is a limited time clinic that is being offered based upon the current availability of the Janssen (J&J) vaccine.

As part of this effort, walk-in appointments are available based upon the total amount of Janssen (J&J) doses available that day. However, to ensure the most efficient use of the vaccine and the ability to receive the vaccine, Veterans, Veterans Spouses and Veteran Caregivers are urged to schedule an appointment by calling 308-382-3660, press 2 to schedule. (Additional scheduling information is listed below.)

The North Platte COVID-19 Veterans Vaccination Clinic is part of VA Nebraska-Western Iowa Health Care System's ongoing work to provide COVID-19 vaccinations to Veterans, Veteran Spouses and Veteran Caregivers across the region. To date, VA NWIHCS has provided nearly 55,000 total vaccinations across the region.

Monday's clinic is open to anyone who served in the military, their spouses, their caregivers, and some other beneficiaries under the authority granted by the <u>SAVE LIVES Act</u>, signed by President Joe Biden March 24, 2021. This includes the following groups:

- Eligible Veterans -- Anyone who served in the U.S. military is eligible to be vaccinated through VA. This includes all Reservists and all National Guard service members (Title 10 & Title 38.)
- **Eligible Spouse** This include marriage, same-sex and common-law marriages, as well as those widows or widowers of a Veteran.
- **Eligible Caregivers -** For COVID-19 vaccine eligibility, a caregiver is defined as a family member or friend who provides care to the Veteran. Caregivers may help the Veteran with personal needs like feeding, bathing, or dressing. They may also help the Veteran with tasks like shopping or transportation.
- Recipients of Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs (CHAMPVA) benefits.

For Veteran spouses and Veteran caregivers wishing to receive the COVID-19 vaccine under the SAVES LIVES Act at a VA NWIHCS Veterans COVID-19 Vaccination Clinic, a SAVE LIVES Vaccination Worksheet must be filled out. The form can be downloaded at:

https://www.knowva.ebenefits.va.gov/.../SAVE% 20LIVES... This form can also be obtained by calling our Eligibility and Enrollment Office at (402) 995-4050 or 1-800-451-5796 option 4. The form should be mailed, faxed (402) 995-5665 or hand-delivered to any of our locations. Once received by our Eligibility and Enrollment Office, those under the SAVES LIVES Act can be scheduled into a VA NWIHCS COVID-19 vaccine clinics.

An additional way to sign up for the vaccine is through the VA's vaccine tool located here: <u>Sign up to get a vaccine | Veterans Affairs</u>. This tool is designed to help streamline the process, allowing Veterans, Spouses and Caregivers to receive the vaccine more quickly.

The North Platte VA CBOC is located at 300 E 3<sup>rd</sup> St Suite 302, North Platte, NE 69101